

South Carolina Environmental Law Project

a 501(c)3 tax-exempt
non-profit corporation

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OUR MISSION

To protect the natural
environment of South
Carolina by providing
legal services and advice to
environmental organizations
and concerned citizens
and by improving the
state's system of
environmental
regulation.

Printed on recycled paper

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January 26, 2007

South Carolina Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 11649
Columbia, SC 29211
Attention: Charles Terreni

S. C. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2007

Re: SC Public Service Commission Docket 2005-385-E-
Order No. 2006-680

I am writing in support of true net metering that allows a single electrical meter to spin forward or backwards for:

- solar and wind generated electric installations;
- for residential and commercial consumers; and
- without complicated or cumbersome interconnection procedures, equipment and fees.

South Carolina is lagging behind 40 other states, plus the District of Columbia, which already have net metering in place. It is time for us to catch up to the rest of the county.

Net metering for solar and wind installations is safe and more efficient than the conventional grid system. Today's solar and wind technologies and inverters comply with IEEE and IREC standards. There is no backflow when the public grid goes down and there are no fire or electric shock hazards. 1 kwh generated on-site delivers 1 kwh on-site, whereas it takes approximately 3 kwh's off-site to deliver 1 kwh on-site due to voltage losses over long transmission lines.

Solar and wind technologies benefit South Carolina because they:

1. Reduce consumers' utility bills and encourage energy conservation;
2. Keep our money here in South Carolina - it is not sent to foreign countries;
3. Generate jobs here for solar and wind installers- small businesses comprise 80% of all jobs;
4. Reduce air pollution and global warming that would otherwise be injurious to citizens' health and limit business growth under EPA non-attainment standards;
5. Reduce the consumers' costs of solar and wind installations by eliminating the need for expensive and potentially hazardous battery systems.

Power companies do not lose money, because:

1. Solar generates electricity during times of peak demand when power companies have to pay top dollar, sometimes greater than retail, for electricity;
2. By reducing overall peak demand, it slows the need to build more expensive power plants; and
3. There is no increased administrative cost to the utility - they are just reading the meter as they would any other.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue facing South Carolina.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy E. Armstrong", written in a cursive style.

Amy E. Armstrong